

Cultural Respect from a Child Welfare Perspective

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Culture



The Sum of all lived experiences:
What we know
Who we are
How we do things



Culture

Customs

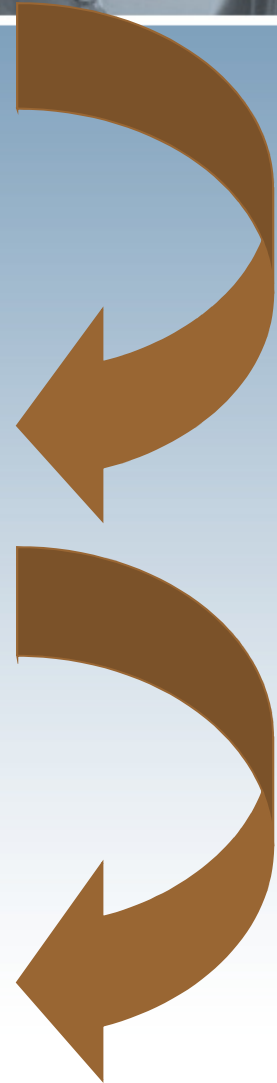
Ways of thinking

It influences

**Patterns of Communication
Behavior**

It is the foundation of

**Beliefs
Value systems**





Surface Culture

What is visible when you meet someone

Deep Culture

What cannot be seen and requires the use of Dynamic Interaction to elicit more of.

Elements of Surface Culture



- Food - food and culinary contributions
- Holidays - patriotic holidays, religious observances, and personal rites and celebrations
- Arts - traditional and contemporary music, visual and performing arts, and drama
- Folklore - folk tales, legends, and oral history
- History - historical and humanitarian contributions, and social and political movements
- Personalities - historical, contemporary, and local figures

Elements of Deep Culture



- Ceremony
- Concepts of time
- Courtship & marriage
- Ethics
- Family ties
- Health & medicine
- Folk myths
- Grooming & presence
- Ownership
- Rewards & privileges
- Rights & duties
- Religion
- Sex roles
- Space & proximity
- Subsistence
- Taboos
- Values



Cultural Competency / Sensitivity

The ability to respond respectfully and effectively to people of all cultures in a way that affirms and values cultural differences and protects/preserves the dignity of each individual.

Seattle King County Department of Public Health, 1994.



Important Factors to Consider

- Time living in the United States
- Language Proficiency
- Education level
- Socio economic level
- Acculturation
- Documentation Status

2011 Kitchen in Rural Guatemala



Neighborhood in Rural El Salvador





Children at work



More Children at Work



Family at Work







QUESTIONS?
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